(d) The names of bulk drugs and drug intermediates on which customs duty concessions have been given by the Finance Ministry during the last two years are given in the custom notifications published from time to time in the official gazette copies of which are available in the library of Parliament.

Involvement of Prices of Drugs in litigation cases

657. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 399 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th July, 1991 and state:

(a) when the prices of formulations and bulk drugs were involved in the litigation case of M/s. Glaxo and M/s. Hoechst fixed under DPCO 1987;

(b) what was the price fixed for each and when each was implemented;

(c) what were the recommended prices of each of these from time to time after the stay granted by the Courts initially in each case;

(d) whether it is a fact that substantial part of liability against both these companies is yet to be assessed; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (e) The information will be collected, compiled and laid on the table of the House, as soon as possible.

Prices of Ampicillin Trihydrate and Ampicillin Anhydrous

658. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 371 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18th July, 1991 and state:

(a) when the prices of formulations of Ampicillin Trihydate, Ampicillin Anhydrous were approved by Government;

(b) what is the gap period between the said approval and 7th Januray, 1991 when the prices were reduced;

(c) whether Government have made assessment of benefit accrued to the producers on account of that lapse;

(d) whether it is a fact that this was the handy work of the concerned officers;

(e) whether Government have ordered any inquiry by an officer not concerned with the work;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) what are the basis and ground on which Government have come to the conclusion that the delay was not intentional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (g) The orders of the then Minister were obtained on 25-7-1989 to revise the ceiling prices of formulations based on Ampicillin Trihydrate/Anhydrous. The delay in notifying the prices was examined and it has been found to be a case of negligence by a junior official and there was no material to indicate that there was any malafide intention.

Ban on import of certain drugs

659. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received proposals for the ban on imports of Norfloxacin, Metoprolol Tartarate, Piroxicam and Lorazepam;

(b) if so, when each proposal was received and what action has been taken so far on each;

(c) what is the estimated demand of each drug and what is the total production of each drug during 1990-91; and

(d) what steps are being taken to safeguard the interest of indigenous products and what is Government Policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

(c) Details of demand estimates as well as of production in the organised sector, (to the extent monitored by the Department and made available by the companies) are given below:—

Name of drug	Production 1989-90	Demand estimates 1989-90
1. Piroxicam	0·65 MT	1·1 MT
2. Lorazepam	N.A.	0·214 MT

(d) As and when adequate indigenous production is estalished, appropriate action is taken to safeguard indigenous industry through the EXIM Policy, the tariff mechanism etc.

Form 2A of DPCO, 1987

660. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 743 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th July, 1991 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under Form 2A of Drugs Price Control Order, 1987 it is obligatory for the producer to disclose the details in respect of price decontrolled formulations;

(b) if so, what is the break up and MAPE provided by the formulator of Fasigyn Tablets in Form 2A;

(c) whether it is a fact that poor people are being exploited by overcharging the price of this Tinidazole based formulations;

(d) if so ,what steps have been taken to bring down the price at reasonable level;

(e) whether it is a fact that 90 per cent of the market of finished medicines based on Tinidazole is controlled by M/s. Ffizer and Cadila; and

(f) if so, on what basis this drug was price decontrolled and what steps have been taken to rectify the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. To the extent available, information has been given in the Statement.

(c) and (d) It is always the endeavour of the Government to make available medicines to the ultimate users at reasonable prices. As and when any unusual price increases is noticed, Government intervenes.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) The inclusion/exclusion of bulk drugs under price control under DPCO, 1987 is mainly based on the recommendations made by the Kelkar Committee in its main as well as supplementary report.